



(Ireland.)

A

B I L L

To facilitate the Improvement of Landed Property in
Ireland by the Owners thereof, and thereby to afford
Employment to the Labouring Classes.

[Note.—The Words and Clauses printed in *Italics* are proposed to
be inserted in the Committee.]

- W**H^{EREAS} by an Act passed in the Session of Parliament held in the first and second years of the reign of his late Majesty King WILLIAM the Fourth, intituled, “An Act for the Extension and Promotion of Public Works in Ireland,” it is amongst other things enacted, that it should and might be lawful for the Commissioners of Public Works acting in execution of the said Act to make loans and advances in aid of the drainage, embankment, reclaiming, or the improvement of land on the credit of mortgages, assignments or other assurances of the estate and interest, freehold or leasehold, on such land which is to be the subject of such drainage, embankment, reclamation or other improvement, upon the terms and conditions in the said Act mentioned :

Proviso :
1 & 2 W. 4.
c. 32.

s. 32.

- And whereas by a further Act passed in the Session of Parliament held in the ninth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled, “An Act for the further Amendment of the Acts for the Extension and Promotion of Public Works in Ireland,” it is enacted, that it should and might be lawful for the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, subject to such conditions and restrictions as are therein-after provided, to make any loan or advance for the purposes aforesaid :

9 Vict. c.

s. 6.

9 & 10 Vict.
c. 101.

And whereas a further Act was passed in the Session of Parliament held in the ninth and tenth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled, "An Act to authorize the Advance of Public Money to a limited Amount, to promote the Improvement of Land in Great Britain and Ireland by Works of Drainage :"

5

And whereas it is expedient that so much of the said thirdly-recited Act as extends to Ireland should be repealed, and that greater facilities, under proper conditions and restrictions, should be given for the improvement of lands in Ireland ;

BE it Enacted, by The QUEEN's most Excellent MAJESTY, by 10
and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal,
and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the
Authority of the same, THAT so much of the said thirdly-recited
Act as authorizes the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to
issue, for the loans to be made under the provisions of the said Act, 15
any sums of money not exceeding One Million of Pounds for Ireland,
and all the provisions and powers in the said Act contained relating to
Ireland, and to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, be
and the same is hereby repealed.

1.
Repeal of
authority to
raise One
Million under
said Act.

2.
Treasury
may make
advances not
exceeding
1,000,000l.
for Ireland.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Commissioners 20
of Her Majesty's Treasury, upon application of the Commissioners of
Public Works in Ireland, from time to time to issue and advance out
of the growing produce of the Consolidated Fund of the United King-
dom of Great Britain and Ireland, such sum or sums of money, to be
applied for the purposes and under the provisions hereinafter contained, 25
as may from time to time be required, not exceeding in the whole the sum
of One Million Five hundred thousand Pounds.

3.
The Commis-
sioners of
Public Works
to be the
Commis-
sioners for the
execution of
this Act.

And be it Enacted, That the Commissioners of Public Works in
Ireland for the time being shall be the Commissioners for the execu-
tion of this Act, and shall for the purposes of this Act be a corpora- 30
tion with perpetual succession and a common seal, to be by them
altered or varied at their pleasure ; and such Commissioners shall
have full power, with the sanction of the Commissioners of the Treas-
ury, to appoint so many civil engineers, surveyors, agriculturists,
architects, builders, clerks and other officers as may be necessary for 35
the purpose of carrying this Act into execution, in the same manner
as the said Commissioners of Public Works may now appoint any
officers and clerks under any Act or Acts now in force in Ireland,
and to pay to them such salaries as may be determined on by the said
Commissioners of the Treasury.

And

4.
Commissioners may
make advances for
Works of im-
provement.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Public Works, upon application made to them under the provisions of this Act, to make loans under this Act for the following purposes; (that is to say) for the drainage of any lands by any such
5 means as the said Commissioners shall approve, for subsoiling, trenching or otherwise deepening and improving the soil, for irrigation or warping of land, for embanking lands from the sea, enclosing, fencing any land or improving the fences, drains, streams or watercourses of any land, for the reclamation of waste or other land, for making
10 farm roads, or clearing lands of rocks and stones, erecting and making corn mills, with the necessary buildings and watercourses for the use of the same, erecting substantial farm-houses and buildings, or otherwise in the opinion of the said Commissioners permanently improving lands in Ireland.

5.
Works to be
sanctioned by
the Treasury
before ad-
vances made.

6.
Who shall
be deemed
owner.

15 And be it Enacted, That no loan under this Act shall be made until sanctioned by the said Commissioners of the Treasury.

And be it Enacted, That any person seised of or entitled at law or in equity to land, as tenant in fee-simple or in fee-tail, general or special, or as tenant in dower or by curtesy, and also any person who shall be
20 entitled under any will or settlement, or any other deed or instrument (except a grant or lease reserving rent) for his own life or the life of any other person, or jointly for his own life and the life of any other person or persons, or for years determinable on such life or lives, and also any person who shall be entitled under any lease granted by any
25 collegiate or ecclesiastical body, or other corporation sole or aggregate, or under any lease granted by any person having immediate or derivative title from or under any such collegiate or ecclesiastical body, or other corporation sole or aggregate, which lease shall contain a toties quoties covenant of renewal, or shall be renewable by custom
30 for ever, and also any person who shall be entitled under any grant, lease or any other deed or assurance for an estate in fee, or for an estate or interest for any life or lives, renewable for ever, or for a term of years absolute, whereof *Forty Years* or more shall be unexpired at the time of application, or for any term of *Forty Years* or more, renew-
35 able on the fall of any life or lives, or for any term or terms of years renewable for ever, whether such last-mentioned person shall be entitled to any such estate, term or interest, either absolutely or as tenant in tail, or as quasi tenant in tail, or for his life; and also every archbishop, bishop, parson, or other ecclesiastical person, as to lands
40 held by them in their respective corporate characters; and also every feoffee or trustee of any land, or of any such estate or interest therein as aforesaid, for charitable or other purposes; and also every trustee of any such estate or interest as aforesaid who shall be in the actual possession of the land, or in receipt of the rents payable by the

tenants of such land, shall be deemed an owner of such land for the purposes of this Act; and in every case in which any person seised, possessed of, or entitled to any such land for any such estate or interest as aforesaid, shall be an infant, feme covert, idiot or lunatic, the guardian of such infant, the husband of such feme covert, and the committee of the estate of such idiot or lunatic, shall be deemed an owner of such land for the purposes of this Act: Provided nevertheless, That when the land to which the application for a loan under this Act shall relate, shall be land held in right of any ecclesiastical benefice, the Commissioners of Public Works shall not proceed thereon, unless the bishop of the diocese and the patron of such benefice shall have consented in writing to such application; and for the purposes of this Act the person or persons (if not more than Two), or the majority of the persons (if more than Two), or the guardian, committee, husband or attorney (as the case may be) of any such person or persons respectively, being minors, idiots, lunatics, femes covert or beyond seas, or the corporation who or which would for the time being be entitled to the right of presentation to any benefice if the same were then vacant, shall be considered as the patron thereof; and the consent of The Queen, being the patron, shall for any benefice above the yearly value of *Twenty Pounds* in The Queen's books be testified by writing under the hand of the First Lord Commissioner of the Treasury for the time being, and for any benefice not exceeding the yearly value of *Twenty Pounds*, by writing under the hand of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland; and any corporation may consent by writing under the common seal of such corporation: Provided always, That no person, except a mortgagee in possession, or receipt of rent of the mortgaged lands, or any part thereof, shall be deemed an owner for the purposes of this Act, for or by reason of any estate vested in him, which shall have been created by way of mortgage, or for securing the payment of any sum of money, but that the person who would be deemed an owner for the purposes of this Act, if such estate by way of mortgage or of securing any money had not been created, shall, notwithstanding such mortgage or security, or any other incumbrance, be deemed such owner as aforesaid: Provided also, That a feme covert entitled to rents and profits for her separate use, and whether or not restrained from anticipation, shall for the purposes of this Act be considered as a feme sole: Provided also, That where several persons in succession shall have in any land such estates or interests as would otherwise entitle each of them, under the provisions aforesaid, to be so deemed an owner, such of the said persons shall be deemed the owner for the purposes of this Act, as shall be in actual occupation of the said land, or in case the person in actual occupation shall not be entitled to be deemed an owner under this present clause, then the person who shall have the first such estate or interest as aforesaid therein, in reversion or remainder to or above the estate or interest of the person in actual occupation

occupation as may entitle him to be deemed an owner under the present clause: Provided also, That when the owner first entitled as aforesaid shall (after notice given to him in such form and for such period as the said Commissioners of Public Works shall

5 from time to time direct, by the person having the next such estate or interest as aforesaid in reversion or remainder) refuse or neglect to make any such application, then the person having the next such estate as aforesaid may, if he think fit to apply for a loan under this Act, be deemed the owner of such lands for the purposes of

10 this Act, and shall be deemed the owner for all such purposes, if any loan or advance on account thereof shall, upon his application, be made under this Act.

And be it Enacted, That any person seized or possessed of any land, under any lease, reserving rent for Two or more lives then in

15 being, or for any term of years determinable on any Two or more lives in being at the time of application, or for any term of years absolute, whereof there shall be at the time of application *Twenty-five* Years or more unexpired, who shall apply, under the provisions of this Act, and shall give such security as the said Commissioners of Public

20 Works shall direct for the payment of the annual amount of any rent-charge which may become chargeable on such land, in respect of any loan to be made under the provisions of this Act by the person so applying, his executors, administrators or assigns, during the continuance of the residue of such his estate or interest in the said lands,

25 or for so many years as such rent-charge under this Act shall be payable if his interest shall so long continue, may be deemed the owner of such land under the provisions of this Act: Provided always, That unless specially provided by the terms of holding, no such application as aforesaid, nor any act or proceeding consequent

30 thereupon, under this Act, nor the charging of any rent-charge, shall be construed as a breach of any covenants or conditions, subject to which any person applying under this or the last preceding clause may hold the land: Provided always, That in case there shall be several persons having such interest as last-mentioned in the

35 lands, the person entitled to apply for a loan under the provisions of this Act, or in case there shall be several such applicants, the person to be preferred shall be the person in actual occupation of the lands, or in his default, then the person whose estate or interest, in remainder or reversion, shall be nearest to that of the actual occupier; so always

40 that no loan shall be granted to any applicant under the present clause, except upon such security as before mentioned being given for the payment of any rent-charge chargeable under this Act by the person to whom any loan shall be granted during the continuance of the residue of his estate or interest in the land, or for such other period as before-mentioned.

7.
Persons having certain interests may qualify to be Owners.

8.
Joint Tenants
to be ac-
counted as
one person.

And be it Enacted, That joint tenants, tenants in common and coparceners of any land shall, in respect thereof, be accounted as the owner under the provisions of this Act: Provided always, That any such person or persons interested in or possessing more than One-half of such land shall be deemed entitled to apply for a loan under this Act, and any such application and the proceedings thereon shall be binding upon all other persons interested in such lands, and upon their estates and interests therein.

9.
Power for
Court in cer-
tain cases to
determine
who may act
as owner for
the purposes
of this Act.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That in any case in which there shall appear to the Commissioners of Public Works to be any doubt or question as to who may be the owner of any lands within the meaning of this Act, either as to the whole of such lands or any portion thereof, it shall be lawful for any person or persons claiming to be entitled to or interested in any such lands, or any portion thereof, or the rents thereof, or of any portion thereof, to apply by petition to the Court of Chancery in a summary way for an order to determine who shall be the proper person to apply as owner under this Act, or to appoint a fit person to act for the purposes of this Act in respect of such lands, and thereupon such Court shall make such order as may seem fit for the purpose of determining who shall be the proper person to apply as owner, or of appointing some person to act in respect of such lands as aforesaid, under the provisions of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any person so determined to be the owner, or (so far as the Court shall deem expedient) for any person so appointed to act as aforesaid, to do all acts which any owner, as defined in this Act, is authorized and empowered to do under this Act.

10.
Court of
Chancery
to make
rules and
orders.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, with the advice and consent of the Master of the Rolls for the time being, from time to time and as often as circumstances shall require, to make and prescribe such rules and orders concerning the form and mode of any proceedings to be had and taken in Chancery for the purposes of this Act and the practice to be observed by the Court in relation to such proceedings or any matters incident thereto as shall from time to time seem necessary or expedient.

11.
Owners of
land desirous
of obtaining
Loans may
make appli-
cation to
the Commis-
sioners.

And be it Enacted, That any owner of land within the meaning of this Act who may propose to improve the same under the provisions of this Act, may apply to the said Commissioners of Public Works by memorial, for a loan, and such memorial shall be made in the form in the Schedule (A.) to this Act annexed, or as near thereto as the circumstances of the case will admit, and shall contain the names or denominations

denominations of the lands proposed to be charged and on which or on any part of which any such improvements as aforesaid are proposed to be made, the estate or interest which such applicant may have in such land, the estimated expense of effecting the proposed improvements, the amount of quit-rents and rent-charges in lieu of
 5 tithes payable in respect of such land or any part thereof, the annual value of such land, and the estimated increase in the annual value expected to arise to the lands the subject of such improvement; and every such memorial shall be accompanied by a plan of such lands,
 10 as well as by an estimate and specification in detail of the proposed works, together with such other plans and particulars (if any) as the said Commissioners may, by any rules or regulations (which they are hereby authorized to make) think proper to require.

And be it Enacted, That the said Commissioners of Public Works
 15 may require security by deposit, bond or otherwise, to be given in such form as they may think fit, by the owner of the land making the application or by any other person on his behalf or jointly with him, for the payment to the said Commissioners of such sum as the said Commissioners may require, to defray the expenses of obtaining a
 20 report upon and investigating the subject of any such application, including all expenses consequent upon any such investigation; and unless the said Commissioners shall otherwise direct, such payment shall be made by the person making the application, and that whether any loan shall be made upon the application or not.

And be it Enacted, That in case the said Commissioners of Public Works, upon investigation, shall think fit to make any advance under
 25 this Act on the security of the lands the subject of such application as aforesaid, the costs and expenses of the investigation by the said Commissioners shall form part of the sum in respect of which a rent-charge
 30 shall be charged on such lands under the provisions of this Act.

And be it Enacted, That with a view to expedite the proceedings preliminary to the execution of any of the works under this Act, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, on the application of the Commissioners of Public Works, to direct
 35 that any sum or sums of money, not exceeding in the whole the sum of Five thousand Pounds in any one year, required for the purposes of any such preliminary investigation and proceedings as aforesaid, by the said last-mentioned Commissioners, shall be advanced and paid to them out of the growing produce of the Consolidated Fund of the United
 40 Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and applied by the said Commissioners in making the necessary survey, inspection and investigation, and in taking all other proceedings preliminary to making

12.
Commissioners to take security for costs of report upon and investigating application.

13.
If an advance shall be made, expenses of inquiry shall form part of charge on land.

14.
Treasury may advance money to the Commissioners to meet preliminary expenses.

any loan or advance under this Act; and all and every sum or sums of money so to be advanced and paid out of the Consolidated Fund as aforesaid, shall be repaid to the Consolidated Fund by the Commissioners of Public Works on behalf of the party on whose account, or at whose instance, such expenses may have been incurred, either out of the first or other monies advanced for the purpose of executing the works, the subject of such preliminary inquiry; or (in case where the execution of the necessary works shall not be proceeded with, either in consequence of the said last-mentioned Commissioners not approving of the same, or from any other cause) out of the monies to be repaid to the said last-mentioned Commissioners by the party or person who shall have made application for the execution of any such works, and to be recovered by the said last-mentioned Commissioners under the security hereinbefore by this Act authorized to be taken for this purpose.

15.
Commissioners may cause land to be inspected.

And be it Enacted, That the said Commissioners, if they shall think fit, shall cause the land, and the plan, estimate and specification of the works proposed in any application, to be inspected and examined by a competent person, who shall report his opinion thereon, and whether the proposed or any other works will effect immediately or prospectively an improvement in the annual value of the land, to any amount, or any specified amount, exceeding the utmost annual amount to be charged thereon under this Act, in respect of the advance applied for, and he shall annex to such report either the plan, specification and estimate so furnished to the said Commissioners by the applicant, or some other plan, specification or estimate for effecting and carrying out the works in a substantial and durable manner; and the said Commissioners may make such further and other inquiries in relation to any such application as they may think fit, and may alter or modify any such plans, specifications and estimates, in such manner as they may think fit: Provided always, That no charge, security or proceeding under this Act shall be impeached or questioned at law or in equity by reason that the annual value of any lands may not actually be improved by the works effected.

16.
Commissioners, &c. may enter lands for the purposes of survey or inquiry.

And be it Enacted, That for the purposes of any inspection, survey or inquiry directed or necessary under any of the provisions of this Act, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, by themselves, or by their surveyors, engineers, agriculturists, architects, builders, agents, officers and workmen, to enter upon any lands with respect to which any works shall be executed, or shall be proposed to be executed, under this Act, or any lands adjoining thereto, and

to

to dig or bore therein, and also to examine any weir, sluice or flood-gate erected in or upon any river or stream, and to open or raise, or shut or close, and to keep open or raised, shut or closed, for a reasonable time, any such flood-gate or sluice for the purposes of any such inquiry, and to make any soundings, or bore the bed or channel of any part of such river, or any mill-course connected therewith, making reasonable compensation for any damage done thereby, and the amount of such compensation shall (if not previously agreed upon between the parties and the said Commissioners) be ascertained by Two or more Justices of the Peace at Petty Sessions in or for the district wherein any such damage shall be committed, and such Justices are hereby authorized and required to inquire into and determine the same, and for that purpose to examine on oath or otherwise, as by law authorized, all such witnesses as shall be produced before them, and to make such order as to them shall seem just, for the payment of the amount of such damage by the Commissioners to the party aggrieved, which said order shall be final and conclusive, and such damages shall be taken as part of the costs of the inquiry: Provided always, That the said Commissioners, their surveyors, engineers, agriculturists, architects, builders, agents, officers and workmen, may enter upon such lands as aforesaid, and do all necessary matters and things by this Act authorized previously to or pending the decision of such Justices.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Public Works to make such rules and regulations as they shall from time to time think proper with respect to applications for advances under this Act, and to issue such instructions and forms as they may think proper for the guidance of and observance by persons applying for or receiving loans, or executing works, or rendering accounts of monies advanced under this Act, and with respect to all other matters in and about the execution of this Act not hereby especially referred to the determination of any other person, court or body.

17.
Commissioners may make Rules and Regulations.

And be it Enacted, That on receipt of any such application by memorial as hereinbefore mentioned, the said Commissioners of Public Works shall (if they think proper to entertain the same), give notice thereof by advertisement, to be published once in the Dublin Gazette, and for two successive weeks (once at least in each week) in any newspaper circulating in the county in which the lands the subject of any such memorial, shall be situate, or in any newspaper printed and published in Dublin, which notice shall contain the name of the memorialist, and the names or such description as the said Commissioners shall think sufficient of the lands in respect of which such memorial shall have been presented, together with the amount of loan applied for, and by which notice, all parties

18.
Commissioners to give notice of application.

claiming to be interested in the lands the subject of any such memorial, and all other parties whom it may concern, shall be required on or before a day therein to be named, not sooner than *Two Weeks* from the said publication in the *Dublin Gazette*, to transmit to the said Commissioners in Dublin their dissent or objection (if any) to any such memorial, or to any statement therein contained, or to the loan applied for by any such memorial, with their reasons for such dissent or objection; and in case any person shall within such period so named as aforesaid, signify in writing to the said Commissioners such dissent or objection as aforesaid, and the nature of his estate or interest in or charge upon the said land (if any), the said Commissioners shall notify such dissent to the person by whom such memorial shall have been presented, or to the owner for the time being of such land, and shall not make any such loan till such dissent or objection shall have been withdrawn, or an order shall have been made thereon in the manner hereinafter provided.

19.
Commissioners to call a meeting and hear objections.

And be it Enacted, That in all cases in which the said Commissioners of Public Works shall receive any such dissent or objection as aforesaid in writing, within such period as aforesaid (unless such dissent or objection shall be withdrawn), they shall, at their office in Dublin or elsewhere, and on a day not sooner than *One Week* from the day limited by such notice for the transmission of such dissent or objection as aforesaid, and to be stated in such notice, or to be fixed by some subsequent notice to be published as aforesaid, call a meeting of all persons claiming to be interested in the said lands, and of such other persons as the said Commissioners may think fit to summon, and which meeting as well as every other meeting to be held under this Act, the said Commissioners shall have power from time to time to adjourn to such time and place as they may think proper, and hear and inquire into such objections and dissents, and all such other matters and things as shall be then and there brought before them, and shall and may receive any evidence touching or pertinent to the same upon oath or otherwise, as by law authorized; and in such case, or in case no dissent or objection shall be received as aforesaid (in which case no notice of meeting need be given), the said Commissioners shall make such order under their common seal in the premises, as to the said Commissioners shall seem fit, with respect to the making of such loan, or the execution of the proposed works, and every such order shall be in writing, and shall contain the name of the lands, the name of the memorialist, the amount of the loan (if any) proposed to be made, and such other matters as the said Commissioners may think proper.

20.
Owner to register order of Commissioners.

And be it Enacted, That in all cases where the Commissioners shall have made any such order for a loan as aforesaid, the owner applying for such loan, or other the owner for the time being, shall, under

under the directions of the said Commissioners, forthwith cause such order to be registered in the office for registry of deeds in the city of Dublin, and the registrar of said registry office, his and their assistant, deputies and other officers, are hereby required to register the same, and all other instruments by this Act directed or authorized to be registered, in the same manner as any deeds or instruments are registered in said office, and to enter a memorial thereof in the abstract, books and indexes of or relating to memorials registered and kept in the said office, subject to the payment of such fees as may now be lawfully demanded upon registration.

And be it Enacted, That from the date of such order, the several lands therein mentioned shall, in case any loan shall be granted in respect thereof, become charged in the manner and with the priority by this Act provided, with the rent-charge to be payable under the provisions of this Act in respect of such loan; and every such order in respect of the lands therein specified shall be binding upon all persons having any estate or interest in such lands or lien or incumbrance thereon, and shall be conclusive evidence that the several proceedings hereinbefore directed to be taken and observed have been complied with; and that all dissents or objections to the making of any loan have been withdrawn, disallowed or removed; and it shall not be lawful for any person to question such order of the said Commissioners of Public Works or any advances of money to be made in pursuance thereof, in respect of anything whatsoever done or omitted to be done under the provisions of this Act.

21.
The Lands to become chargeable from the date of such order.

And be it Enacted, That no error, misdescription, misnomer, misstatement or omission in any Memorial, Schedule, Plan, Section, Estimate, Notice or other document or proceeding under this Act, prepared, lodged, registered, given or taken by or to the said Commissioners of Public Works, shall invalidate the same, or any of them, or any of the proceedings under this Act, nor shall any error or omission whatever in any of the proceedings preliminary to the order for a loan, affect or invalidate any such proceedings, or the powers and authorities of the said Commissioners, nor shall prevent them from proceeding with the execution of any works under this Act, and doing all matters in their judgment requisite for carrying the provisions of this Act into effect, nor shall affect any matter or thing done or omitted to be done by the said Commissioners in and about the matter of this Act, nor shall invalidate or affect any rent-charge chargeable under this Act; and it shall not be lawful for any person whomsoever to question or appeal against or in respect of any thing so done or omitted to be done by the said Commissioners; nor shall any proceedings by or on behalf of the said Commissioners be removable by certiorari into any of Her Majesty's Courts of Record.

22.
Errors and omissions not to invalidate proceedings.

23.
Treasury to
make Regu-
lations for
placing
Monies at the
disposal of
the Pay-
master of
Civil Services
for the pur-
poses of this
Act.

And be it Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury from time to time to make such rules and regulations as they may consider necessary for the purpose of placing at the disposal of the Paymaster of Civil Services in Ireland such sums of money as may from time to time be necessary for the purpose of making loans and advances under the provisions of this Act, to be from time to time made on the certificate of the said Commissioners of Public Works. 5

24.
Account to
be opened by
the Bank of
Ireland.

And be it Enacted, That the Governor and Company of the Bank of Ireland shall cause a separate account to be opened in their books with the Paymaster of Civil Services in Ireland, under the title of "Improvement of Land Advances and Repayment Accounts." 10

25.
The Com-
missioners
may make
Loans.

And be it Enacted, That if the said Commissioners of Public Works shall think that a loan in respect of any such application would be expedient, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, by and with the sanction of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to make such loan, and to certify to the Paymaster of Civil Services for the issue of the instalments of the same as after-men- tioned, to the owner of the land by whom such application shall have been made, or in case his interest shall have determined at the date of the first or any subsequent instalment, to the owner for the time being of such land, or to such other party or parties as they shall think fit: Provided always, That no loan shall be made under this Act for a less sum than the sum of *One hundred Pounds*. 15 20

26.
Every Loan
to be issued
by instal-
ments.

And be it Enacted, That every loan to be made by the said Commissioners of Public Works under this Act shall be made and issued by instalments not exceeding at any time *One-fifth* of the entire sum, together with the costs and expenses of investigation as aforesaid, and that no second or any subsequent instalment of any such loan shall be made until it shall have been proved to the satisfaction of the said Commissioners, in such manner as they shall require, that the preceding instalment has been properly expended on such works or improvement, pursuant to the plan, specification and estimate which shall have been sanctioned and approved of by the said Commissioners, or such other plan, specification or estimate as the said Commissioners may think fit from time to time to sanction and approve of: Provided always, That no one instalment of any such loan shall in any case exceed the sum of *Three hundred Pounds*. 25 30 35

27.
Commis-
sioners to
take security
for due appli-
cation of the
money.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Public Works, either before or after any advance on account of any loan under this Act shall be made, to require and take such security, by bond or otherwise, as they may think right, from every or any person to whom any such loan may be agreed to be made as afore- said, 40

said, or who may become entitled to receive any part thereof, or from any other person jointly with or on behalf of any such person, such security to be conditioned to apply the monies advanced or to be advanced to and for the purposes specified in the plan, specification and estimate from time to time approved of by the said Commissioners and to no other purpose whatsoever, and also well and truly to account to the said Commissioners for the application of the monies to be from time to time advanced by the said Commissioners, and also to lay before such Commissioners, whensoever required, such statements and reports of the works for which such loan may have been made as the Commissioners shall think fit, so as all such works be completed within such period as may, previously to making any such loan or advance, be fixed by the said Commissioners, or within such further period as they may fix from time to time, such periods not exceeding in the whole *Three Years* from the date of the first advance on account of any such loan.

And be it Enacted, That whenever any works shall have been commenced, or shall be carried on under this Act, according to any plan, specification or estimate which shall have been originally approved of by the Commissioners of Public Works, and it shall, from any alteration of circumstances, appear to the Commissioners that it would be expedient so to do, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, on the application of any owner for that purpose, from time to time to sanction the alteration or modification of any such plans, specifications or estimates so originally approved of to such extent as may be sufficient for the purposes of this Act, and to direct the works to be carried on according to the plan, specification or estimate so altered or modified; and in case any such alteration or modification shall require the advance of any further sum of money for the completion of the works, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, with the sanction of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to advance any such further sum as shall be necessary; and the order of the Commissioners directing any such further advance shall be sufficient without any writing or memorial, and shall be registered in like manner as any order hereinbefore authorized to be made for advancing any money, and shall have the same effect as any such order so hereinbefore authorized, and the lands therein specified shall thereon become charged with the payment, in manner by this Act directed, of a rent-charge, bearing such proportions as aforesaid to the amount of such further advance.

28.
Commissioners on application of owners may sanction alterations and make further advance if necessary.

29.
Commissioners may sanction alterations in certain cases for reducing the expense of works.

And be it Enacted, That where any works shall have been commenced or shall be carried on under this Act, according to any plan, specification or estimate which shall have been originally approved of by the Commissioners of Public Works, and it shall appear to the said Commissioners, from any alteration of circumstances, that the esti-

mate, or the works originally proposed may be modified or altered by reducing the same, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners from time to time to alter or modify any such plans, specifications or estimates so originally approved of, by reducing the proposed works, or the estimates thereof, so always that the works to be carried on according to the modified plans, specifications or estimates shall in the opinion of the Commissioners be of a nature to effect a sufficient improvement for the purposes of this Act in the annual value of the lands; and also it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, by any order as aforesaid, without any previous sanction of the Commissioners of the Treasury, to withhold any instalment or part of the loan originally agreed to be made for the proposed works to an extent corresponding, in their judgment, to the diminished expenditure, and to diminish the rent-charge which would otherwise have become charged on the lands in proportion to the diminished advance so to be made.

30.
Provisions
last aforesaid
to apply to
cases where
Commissioners have
entered.

And be it Enacted, That the two provisions or sections last hereinbefore contained shall apply in all respects as well in cases where the works shall be carried on by or on behalf of the said Commissioners of Public Works having entered, as by this Act is provided, for any default, as where they shall be carried on by any other person.

31.
In default of
due application
of Money
advances,
Commissioners may
complete
Works.

And be it Enacted, That if default shall be made in the due application of any instalment of any loan made for the purpose of this Act, or if the owner to whom any such loan may have been agreed to be made, or if the person for the time being bound to execute the works for which such loan shall have been agreed to be made, shall omit or neglect so to do, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Public Works to stop all further advances in respect to such works, or it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any person authorized by them for that purpose (if they shall think fit, either for the benefit of the person entitled next in remainder or reversion to the said lands on the security of which any such loan shall have been agreed to be made, or for the purpose of better securing such loan) to enter upon such lands, and proceed to complete the necessary works, and all monies paid by the said Commissioners for the completion of the works shall be taken as part of the loan agreed to be by them made, and shall be repaid by such rent-charge out of such lands, to be raised from such lands in manner hereinbefore provided; and in every such case it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, by any order in that behalf, to fix the date from which any rent-charge in respect of any payment made by them after having so entered shall be computed, and the day whereon the first payment thereof shall be made.

32.
Power to
Commissioners in case

And be it Enacted, That in any case in which the said Commissioners of Public Works shall have entered as by this Act is provided upon

upon any lands for the completion of any works, if the residue of the monies originally agreed to be advanced by the said Commissioners shall not, in the judgment of the said Commissioners, be sufficient to complete the works, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, with the sanction of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to expend such further sum as they may think expedient in the works by this Act authorized; and the order of the said Commissioners of Public Works directing any such further expenditure, shall be registered in like manner, and shall have the same effect as any order directing an advance; and the lands therein specified shall, from the date of such order, become charged with the payment in manner by this Act directed, of a rent-charge bearing such proportion as aforesaid to the amount of such further advance; and in any such case, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, by any such order, to fix the date from which any such rent-charge shall be computed, and the day whereon the first payment thereof shall be made.

of entering to complete works to expend such further sum as may be necessary.

And be it Enacted, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent any owner of land which shall already have been improved, under the provisions of this Act, from applying for a new loan, nor to prevent the Commissioners of Public Works, with the sanction of the Commissioners of the Treasury, as hereinbefore directed, from making any new loan, under the provisions of this Act, on the security of lands already improved, as often as it shall appear to them that any new works proposed will effect either immediately or prospectively an improvement in the annual value of the lands intended to be improved to an amount exceeding the utmost annual amount to be charged thereon under this Act in respect of the new loan applied for; and that all the provisions in this Act contained with respect to any first application for a loan, and the proceedings thereon, shall apply to any application for a fresh loan in respect of lands already improved under this Act.

33-
Nothing to prevent owners applying for new loan.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for any such owner, upon receiving any part of such loan as aforesaid, or sooner if sanctioned by the said Commissioners of Public Works, by himself, his engineers, agents and workmen, from time to time to enter upon any lands of which he shall be owner within the provisions of this Act, making such compensation to any person or persons for any damage or injury done thereby, in the same manner and subject to the like provisions as in cases of compensation to be made by the said Commissioners of Public Works in respect of any damage done by the said Commissioners, (except as to the adding of any damage to the sum in respect of which a rent-charge is to be charged under this Act), and to execute all the necessary works for which such loan may

34-
Owner may enter lands.

be made, notwithstanding that any other person or persons may have any other estate or interest in the same lands.

35.
A Rent-charge
of *Sl. 10s.* to
be charged
for every
100*l.* ad-
vanced.

And be it Enacted, That in case any loan shall be made under this Act, the lands specified in such order of the said Commissioners of Public Works as before mentioned for the making of such loan shall from the date of such order become charged with the payment to Her Majesty of an annual rent-charge of *Six Pounds Ten Shillings* for every One hundred Pounds of such loan from time to time advanced, including such costs and expenses of investigation as aforesaid, and so on in proportion for any lesser amount, and to be payable for the term of *Twenty-two Years*, to be computed from the Sixth day of April or Tenth day of October which shall next happen after the advance in respect of which the rent-charge shall be charged, such rent-charge to be paid by equal half-yearly payments on the Sixth day of April and Tenth day of October in every year, the first of such payments to be made on the Second of such days which shall happen next after the issue of any such advance in respect of which the rent-charge shall be charged.

36.
Rent-charge
to have
priority.

And be it Enacted, That every such rent-charge by this Act created shall take priority of all charges and incumbrances whatsoever and whensoever made, save and except quit-rents and rent-charges in lieu of tithes, and also save and except all charges, if any existing prior in point of time to the date of any charge under and by virtue of an Act passed in the fifth and sixth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled, "An Act to promote the Drainage of Lands, and Improvement of Navigation and Water Power, in connexion with such Drainage in Ireland," and two other Acts since passed amending the same Act, or under and by virtue of this Act.

37.
Recovery of
Rent-charge
by appoint-
ment of
Receiver in
default of pay-
ment.

And be it Enacted, That if any half-yearly payment of such rent-charge shall remain unpaid by the space of *Thirty-one Days* next after the day on which the same should be paid as aforesaid, then it shall be lawful for the Court of Chancery in Ireland, upon the petition of the Attorney-general for Ireland for the time being, to appoint a receiver of the rents, profits and issues of the lands liable to any such rent-charge, who shall have the same powers as any other receiver of the said Court of Chancery, and shall apply the same rents, profits and issues, after deduction of the necessary expenses of the application, to the said Court, and the other expenses consequent thereon, and after payment of all outgoings in respect of any charges or incumbrances, having priority under this Act, and the costs of collection and of the receiver, in or towards payment of the said rent-charge.

And

38.
By Civil Bill
if under 50L

And be it Enacted, That if any such rent-charge or any half-yearly payment thereof or any part thereof (not exceeding in amount the sum of *Fifty Pounds*) shall remain unpaid for the space of *Thirty-one* Days next after the day on which any such half-yearly payment should be made as aforesaid, then, in addition to the other powers in and by this Act given, it shall be lawful for the Attorney-general for Ireland for the time being to recover the same by civil bill against the person who for the time being under this Act shall from time to time be liable to pay the same.

39.
Rent-charges
to be paid as
directed.

And be it Enacted, That the rent-charges which shall become chargeable on lands under this Act, shall be paid to such person, or in such manner as the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may from time to time signify and direct by notice to be published in the Dublin Gazette for that purpose; and all monies so paid shall be paid into the Bank of Ireland to the credit of the Paymaster of Civil Services, and by him carried to the account of the Consolidated Fund; and the receipt of any person so appointed, or of the said Paymaster, shall be a sufficient discharge for the same.

40.
The Rent-charge may be increased with the sanction of the owner, so as to pay off Rent-charges sooner than Twenty-one Years.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That if any owner shall so desire it, the amount of such rent-charge may, with the sanction of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, be increased to such amount as will repay the sum so advanced sooner than the said period of *Twenty-two* Years hereinbefore appointed for the payment of such rent-charge, such increased amount of rent-charge to be calculated according to the Table in the Schedule (B.) hereunto annexed for that purpose.

41.
Orders for the time being to keep keep down Rent-charges.

And be it Enacted, That every owner of land for the time being within the meaning of this Act, being tenant for life, or having a limited or determinable interest in the lands charged, and every succeeding tenant for life or other person having a limited or determinable interest in such land, but liable to such rent-charge, shall, as between such person and the persons in remainder or reversion, be bound to pay the half-yearly payments of such rent-charge which shall become payable during the continuance of his interest; and in case he shall be in the actual occupation of or entitled to an apportioned part of the rents and profits of such land up to the time of the termination of his interest, shall also be bound to pay an apportioned part of the half-yearly payment of such rent-charge which shall become due next after the termination of his interest, proportioned to the time which shall have elapsed between the day of the previous half-yearly payment and the day of such termination.

42.
Owners may
redeem Rent-
charges.

And be it Enacted, That any person entitled to land charged with such rent-charge shall be at liberty, at any time before the expiration of *Twenty Years* after the commencement thereof, to redeem such rent-charge, or any part thereof, not being less than *Ten Pounds* annual charge, on payment to the Paymaster of Civil Services of the arrear (if any) thereof, and of such sum as shall be equal to the value of such rent-charge, to be ascertained according to the Table in Schedule (C.) hereunto annexed for that purpose; and the said Commissioners shall issue and deliver to such owner a certificate of such redemption, and all monies to be so paid to the Paymaster of Civil Services shall be applied by him in the manner herein provided with respect to monies to be received for rent-charges.

43.
Occupiers
paying money
on account of
Landlord to
deduct sum
from rent.

And be it Enacted, That every occupier of land who, not being the owner thereof within the meaning of this Act, and liable to the rent-charge charged thereon, shall pay any sum of money for the land in his occupation on account of any such rent-charge, shall and is hereby authorized to deduct from and out of his rent the amount of the sum of money which he shall so pay as aforesaid; and the next immediate landlord of such occupier, if not himself such owner, and liable to such rent-charge as aforesaid, shall and he is hereby authorized to make the like deduction from the rent payable by him, and so on, each sub-lessee and sub-lessor of such land (not being such owner) being entitled to deduct the sum so paid on account of such rent-charge, from and out of the rent payable to his next immediate landlord, until such deduction shall be made from the rent payable to a person being the owner within the meaning of this Act, and liable to such rent-charge as aforesaid, who shall not be entitled to make any such deduction from the rent (if any) payable by him; and every such occupier, sub-lessee or sub-lessor, as the case may be, paying any such sum of money, shall be acquitted and discharged of the sum so paid by him as fully and effectually as if the same had been actually paid to his landlord (except where there shall be any lease or agreement to the contrary made after the passing of this Act); but nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to enable any such occupier, sub-lessee or sub-lessor to deduct from his rent any costs or expenses incurred by the non-payment of the monies charged and to be levied under and by virtue of this Act.

44.
Commissioners emp-
owered to
fix increased
rent of
tenants.

And be it Enacted, That in case any land which shall be so improved as aforesaid, shall, at any time after such land shall become chargeable with any such rent-charge, be in the occupation of any person who shall not be the owner thereof within the meaning of this Act liable to such rent-charge, then and in every such case the said Commissioners of Public Works shall determine the amount of increased rent, if any, which

which the occupier of such lands ought immediately or prospectively, at one fixed or at a progressive rent, to pay by reason of the improving thereof, under the provisions of this Act, and shall signify their determination by indorsement in writing on the lease or other instrument by which such lands may be held, or if there shall be no such lease or other instrument, then by a separate instrument under their corporate seal; and the occupier of such lands shall pay to his next immediate landlord the said increased rent, and the immediate landlord of such occupier, if not himself such owner as last aforesaid, shall pay the said increased rent to his immediate landlord, and so successively each sub-lessor and sub-lessee of such land, not being such owner as last aforesaid, shall pay the same to his immediate landlord, until such payment shall be made to the owner of such lands within the meaning of this Act, and the said increased rent shall be due and payable at the same times as the rent originally reserved would be due and payable between the respective parties and the landlord of such occupier, and every intermediate landlord shall have the same remedies for the recovery of such increased rent as he or they might have or were entitled to have for the rent originally reserved.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Public Works from time to time and at any time when and so often as by reason of the improvement in value of any lands in respect of which any loan shall have been made under this Act, any portion of the lands charged with any rent-charge shall appear to them a sufficient security for the whole of such rent-charge, by any deed or instrument under their common seal to release any of the lands originally charged with the said rent-charge from the payment thereof, and no release of any portion of the lands charged with a rent-charge under this Act shall in anywise avoid, diminish or affect any remedies by this Act given or otherwise to be had and exercised for the recovery of such rent-charge in respect of the residue of the lands therewith charged.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Paymaster of Civil Services from time to time, and at any time at the request of any person to whom any money shall have been lent under this Act, or of any person for the time being liable to pay any rent-charge created under this Act, or for the time being interested in any lands charged with such rent-charge, and at the expense of the person requiring the same, to deliver, or cause to be delivered, to any such person a certificate under their common seal, showing, as the case may be, the amount of money for the time being advanced or to be

45.
A portion of
lands liable to
Rent-charge
may be
released in
certain cases.

46.
Paymaster to
give certificate
of amount
of advances
and rent-
charge.

advanced under the provisions of this Act, on the security of the lands to be specified in any such certificate, and the respective instalments made or to be made in respect thereof, and the dates of such instalments respectively, the amount of rent-charge for the time being charged upon such lands under the provisions of this Act, the date of commencement thereof, or of the first or any subsequent payment thereof, the number of payments made or to be made, or in arrear for the time being, or any of such matters respectively; and every such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of all and every the matters therein specified.

47.
Power of sale
by the Pay-
master.

And be it Enacted, That if any such rent-charge shall be in arrear for the space of *Two Years* next after any of the days on which the same should be paid as aforesaid, then and in any such case it shall be lawful for the said Paymaster for the time being, to apply in a summary manner to the Court of Chancery in Ireland, for an order for the sale of all or a competent part of the lands so charged, and on satisfactory proof being adduced that the said rent-charge is so in arrear, then the said Court shall, by order, authorize and direct the Paymaster of Civil Services, without any further process, writ or other proceeding, by sale of the lands liable to such rent-charge, subject as hereinafter mentioned, or a competent part thereof, to raise such sum of money as shall be sufficient to repay all monies due and in arrear in respect of such rent-charge, and the value of the said rent-charge thereafter to become payable out of the lands liable to such rent-charges under this Act (such value to be ascertained in the same manner as the value of any rent-charge to be redeemed as by this Act provided), and all costs as between solicitor and client, and other charges whatsoever attending such sale and other proceedings; and the monies so raised shall be applied, first, in discharge of all costs, charges and expenses as aforesaid; secondly, in and towards reimbursement and satisfaction of such arrears and such value of such rent-charge under this Act; and the surplus (if any) of such monies shall be, at the discretion of the said Paymaster, paid either to the owner for the time being of the lands sold and absolutely entitled thereto, or (in case such owner shall be a person having a life estate or other determinable interest, or where, but for the provisions of this Act, the said lands could not have been sold, then into the Bank of Ireland, in the name and with the privity of the Accountant-general of the Court of Chancery in Ireland, to be placed to his account, ex-parte the said Paymaster, and pursuant to any law or orders for the time being in force in that behalf, and without fee or reward, such money to be applied under the direction of the said Court (to be signified by any order made upon petition, in a summary way, presented by the persons who would have

have been entitled to the rents and profits of the said land), in or towards the discharge of any debts or incumbrances, or any part thereof, affecting the said land, or affecting other land settled to the same or the like uses, or upon the same or the like trusts, or in or
 5 towards the purchase of other land to be conveyed and settled to and upon the same uses, trusts, intents and purposes, and in the same manner as the land sold stood settled or limited to, or such of them as at the time of such sale were existing undetermined and capable of taking effect; and in the meantime, and until any such purchase,
 10 the said money shall, by order of the said Court, be invested by the said Accountant-general, in his name, in the purchase of any stocks, funds or annuities transferable at the Bank of Ireland, the dividends of the said stocks, funds or annuities, until sale thereof, to be paid from time to time by order of the said Court to the person who would
 15 for the time being have been entitled to the rents and profits of the land so to be purchased or settled.

And be it Enacted, That the receipt of the Paymaster of Civil Services in Ireland for the time being shall alone be a sufficient discharge to all persons whomsoever for the purchase-money of any
 20 lands sold under this Act; and such persons shall not be bound to see to or be liable for the application thereof, nor shall any such person be bound to inquire as to the value or quantity of lands sold; and any sale under this Act may be made in lots, and subject to such conditions as the vendor shall think fit, and may
 25 be bought in and re-sold by them, although at a loss; and any contract for sale may be altered or rescinded as the vendor shall think fit; and any conveyance or assignment executed by the Paymaster of Civil Services shall be effectual for all purposes therein expressed, and shall be binding and conclusive upon all per-
 30 sons whomsoever interested in the lands, and shall convey all estate, right, title or interest whatsoever of any person whomsoever in the lands the subject of such conveyance, and shall assure the lands to such uses, upon such trusts and in such manner as shall be expressed in such conveyance, subject, nevertheless, only to any
 35 charge having priority under the provisions of this Act, and also to any chief-rent as hereinafter defined which shall have been reserved or payable thereout previously to the date of the order of the said Commissioners, and subject to the estate or estates to which such chief-rent or chief-rents shall be incident, and subject also as
 40 may be expressed in any such conveyance or assignment, but freed from all other charges and incumbrances whatsoever, and the signature of the Paymaster of any such deed shall be sufficient evidence that all the provisions of this Act have been complied with.

48.
 Receipt of
 Paymaster to
 be a sufficient
 discharge.

49.
 Provided as to
 sale of other
 lands.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That in any case where the Paymaster of Civil Services shall proceed to sell any land as aforesaid, if the owner of such land shall be desirous that any other land of the same owner settled to the same uses with the land so improved shall be sold in lieu of the land so improved, and such owner shall be tenant for life or incapacitated otherwise from selling such lands, it shall be lawful for such owner to apply to the High Court of Chancery in Ireland, by petition to the Lord Chancellor or Master of the Rolls, praying that the Paymaster of Civil Services may be authorized or directed to make such sale of any such lands not liable to such rent-charge, but settled to the same uses as any lands liable thereto as aforesaid; and thereupon it shall be lawful for the Court to make such order authorizing or directing such sale or otherwise as to the Court shall seem fit: Provided always, That *Fourteen Days*' notice in writing of any such application shall be given to the person entitled to the estate or interest in the lands proposed to be sold in remainder or reversion next expectant on the determination of the estate or interest of the owner whose land shall be sold as aforesaid, or to the guardian of such person being an infant, or to the husband of such person being a feme covert, or to the committee of such person being a lunatic; and provided also, that in case of any such sale, the owner shall give notice to the said Paymaster of such his application to the said Court as aforesaid, and it may be lawful for such Court, if it shall so think fit, to stay the proceedings of the said Paymaster in respect to sale of any lands liable to the rent-charge for a reasonable time, and every sale directed to be made by the said Court shall, unless otherwise ordered by the said Court, be taken to be within the provisions of this Act as to any sale by the Paymaster, and the purchase-money from such sale shall be received and applied accordingly.

50.
 On payment
 of Rent-
 charge lands
 to be released.

And be it Enacted, That on the expiration or discharge of any rent-charge, and on payment of all arrears thereof, and of all costs, charges and expenses (if any) incurred in any proceedings, to recover the same, or for any sale under this Act in relation thereto, it shall be lawful for the said Paymaster to execute a release of the lands so charged with such rent-charge, and which release shall be in such form as he shall direct.

51.
 Rent-charge
 not to pre-
 clude Trus-
 tees from in-
 vesting money
 in the pur-
 chase or mort-
 gage of Land,
 charged.

And be it Enacted, That the rent-charge by virtue of this Act to be charged on any land, shall not be deemed such an incumbrance as shall preclude a trustee of money from investing the same in a purchase or upon a mortgage of such land so charged, unless the terms of such trust shall expressly provide that the trust-money shall not be so invested.

And

And be it Enacted, That so long as any land shall continue charged with any such rent-charge, the person for the time being bound to such rent-charge, shall be bound to uphold and maintain in good order and condition the works on account of which the lands shall have been charged as aforesaid, and in default of so upholding and maintaining any such work, shall be liable to an action on the case in the nature of an action of waste for the damage thereby occasioned, at the suit of the person then entitled to the next estate in remainder or reversion in the said lands.

52.
Works to be maintained.

AND whereas under the various Acts now in force for promoting the drainage and improvement of lands in Ireland, advances have been made or agreed to be made by the Commissioners of Public Works for the drainage and improvement of the lands of single proprietors; BE it Enacted, That all and every sums of money advanced or agreed to be advanced by the said Commissioners of Public Works, with the sanction of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, under any previous Act, for such purposes shall, (unless the said Commissioners of Public Works shall otherwise specially direct), be considered as advanced and be advanced under the provisions of this Act, and as if the person to whom any such advance has been made or agreed to be made had been owner of such land under the provisions of this Act; and so as such of the works remaining to be done shall be executed by the owner as by this Act is provided with respect to loans to be advanced under this Act; and the lands the subject of any such drainage or improvement shall become charged with the payment to Her Majesty of an annual rent-charge of such proportion and amount as would be chargeable in respect of any such advance if made under the provisions of this Act; and the said Commissioners of Public Works shall by order as aforesaid, fix the commencement of any such rent-charge, and the date of the first payment thereof, and all the provisions, powers, privileges and authorities herein contained for securing the payment and priority or for recovery of any rent-charge charged in respect of any advance originally made under this Act, or otherwise by this enacted concerning any rent-charge or the lands charged therewith, shall apply so far as applicable to any rent-charges charged under the present clause; and all proceedings heretofore had and taken by the said Commissioners under the provisions of any previous Act of Her present Majesty for drainage or improvement of lands shall be effectual for the purposes of this Act.

53.
Sums heretofore advanced by the Treasury to be considered as advances and charged under this Act.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Public Works, upon any inquiry or proceeding to be had by or before them under any of the provisions of this Act, to summon and examine upon oath or affirmation any person whomsoever; and if any person so summoned having been paid or tendered a suffi-

54.
Power to summon witnesses, and persons refusing to give evidence to be punished.

cient sum of money, to be ascertained by the said Commissioners, to defray the charges for his attendance, shall not appear before the said Commissioners pursuant to such summons without assigning some reasonable excuse for not appearing, or shall refuse to be sworn or to affirm (as the case may be), or to be examined and give evidence touching the premises, the said Commissioners, upon proof upon oath of the service of such summons and of such tender, shall and they are hereby authorized by warrant under their hands and seals, to direct any person whomsoever to cause any sum of money not exceeding *Five Pounds*, to be levied by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the person so neglecting or refusing to appear or to be sworn, or to affirm or give evidence, rendering the overplus (if any) upon demand to the person whose goods and chattels shall have been distrained and sold, after deducting the costs and charges attending such distress and sale, and the monies so to be levied as aforesaid shall be applied for such purposes and in such manner as the said Commissioners may direct.

55.
Any person
swearing
falsely guilty
of perjury.

And be it Enacted, That if any person upon examination on oath, or affirmation before the said Commissioners respectively, or any officer by them appointed as aforesaid, or if any person or persons making any such affidavit, declaration, deposition, or affirmation as aforesaid, shall wilfully and corruptly give false evidence, or shall in such affirmation, affidavit, declaration, or deposition, wilfully or corruptly swear, affirm or allege any matter or thing which shall be false or untrue, every such person or persons so offending, and thereof duly convicted, shall be subject to the pains and penalties of persons convicted of wilful and corrupt perjury by any law in force for the time being.

56.
Penalty on
persons
assaulting
Commissioners
or their
officers.

And be it Enacted, That if any person or persons shall wilfully prevent or assault any Commissioner of Public Works, or any engineer, or other officer, servant or workman acting in aid or under the orders of the said Commissioners in the execution of any of the powers given by this Act, every person so offending shall forfeit and pay for every such offence, upon conviction thereof by the oaths of One or more credible witness or witnesses before any Justice of the Peace, such sum not exceeding *Five Pounds* as such Justices shall think fit, to be applied in such manner and for such purposes as the said Commissioners shall direct.

57.
Bonds, &c.,
under this
Act, exempt
from stamp
duty.

And be it Enacted, That no bond, obligation or other security, contract, agreement or other instrument whatever, taken or made to or by the said Commissioners, nor any affidavit, deposition, release, receipt or discharge, to be respectively taken or made under and by virtue of this Act, to or by them, nor any other instrument whatsoever executed

executed under the provisions of this Act, nor any memorial thereof for registration, shall be liable to any stamp duty whatever, any Act or Acts in force to the contrary notwithstanding.

And be it Enacted, That all notices requiring to be served by or on behalf of the said Commissioners or otherwise under the provisions of this Act, upon any person, may be transmitted through the Post, directed to the last known address of such person, within such period as to admit of its being delivered in due course of delivery within the period, if any, prescribed for the giving of such notice; and in proving any service by Post, it shall be sufficient to prove that the notice was properly directed, and so put into the Post-office as before directed.

58.
Notices may
be sent by
Post.

And be it Enacted, That in the construction of this Act, except where the nature of the provision or the context of this Act shall exclude such construction, the word, "land" shall extend to all hereditaments corporeal or incorporeal, and any estate or interest therein, and any undivided part thereof, or any charge or incumbrance thereon; and the words "person or persons," shall extend to all bodies politic, corporate or collegiate, and also to all Archbishops, Bishops, Parsons, and other Ecclesiastical persons, and to any number of persons associated together as a company or partnership; and the word "lease" shall include an agreement for a lease, and the word "benefice" shall include any rectory, vicarage, perpetual curacy, donation, endowed public chapel, parochial chapelry and district chapelry, the incumbent whereof in right thereof shall be a corporation sole; and the word "owner" shall mean the reputed owner; the expression "chief rent" shall include all rents reserved upon, or payable out of or in respect of the estate or interest of any person being an owner within the meaning of this Act, or any estate or interest paramount thereto; and every word importing the singular number only shall extend to several persons or things as well as to one person or thing, and every word importing the plural number shall extend to one person or thing as well as to several persons and things, and every word importing the masculine gender only shall extend to a female as well as to a male; the word "Commissioners," or the words "the said Commissioners," shall mean the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the time being; the words "Commissioners of the Treasury" shall mean the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or any two of them; and the words "Paymaster of Civil Services" shall mean the Paymaster of Civil Services in Ireland for the time being.

59.
Definition of
terms in this
Act.

And be it Enacted, That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed in this Session of Parliament.

60.
Act may be
amended.

SCHEDULES referred to in this ACT.

SCHEDULE (A.)

FORM of MEMORIAL, under Vict., cap.

To the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland.

The Memorial of the Undersigned,

Showeth,—

THAT your memorialist is, within the meaning of the above-mentioned Act, owner of the lands mentioned in the Schedule hereunto annexed.

* Here state the proposed Works.

That your memorialist proposes to improve the said lands by* as mentioned in, or to be inferred from the annexed report, plan, estimate and specification, which your memorialist prays may be respectively considered as part of this his memorial.

That he is desirous of obtaining a loan for that purpose, to be secured by a rent-charge on the lands mentioned in the said Schedule, under the provisions of the above-mentioned Act.

That the present annual value of the lands is the sum of pounds, and that the quit-rent[s] and rent charge[s] in lieu of tithes now charged upon the same lands, amount together to the annual sum of pounds, as more particularly set forth in the said Schedule.

That the expense of effecting such in manner aforesaid, is estimated at the sum of pounds sterling, as more particularly mentioned and set forth in the estimate annexed; and that the estimated increase in the annual value expected to arise to the said lands in said Schedule, the subject of such proposed improvements, amounts to pounds, as set forth in the annexed report.

And this memorialist further states and specifies, that his estate and interest in the said lands and premises, is as follows:—†

And this memorialist now applies and asks for the advance of the sum of pounds by way of loan, under the provisions of the said Act, for defraying the expense of the proposed works, with such alterations and modifications as the Commissioners of Public Works may approve of.

Dated at this day of 18

Witness of signature of owner‡.

† State what Estate or Interest the Memorialist has in the Lands, and the particulars of the title by which the Memorialist is constituted an Owner within the meaning of the Act, bearing regard to the provisions of the Act. Also state whether the whole of said Lands are held under one and the same tenements or title, and what estate is held thereby, and if under different tenements or titles, how much under each.

‡ State the Occupation, Residence and Post Town of Applicant and Witness.

SCHEDULE.

SCHEDULE.

Owner.	Occupier.	Townland, with the denomination or reputed Name or Names by which the Lands are known.	Barony or Parish, distinguishing which.	County.	Probable Quantity of Land.	Qual. Value.	Rent-Charges in Use of Tithes.

SCHEDULE (B.)

SCHEDULE (C.)